

Focus on 5th



News and Events in the 5th Grade
January 25, 2011
www.op97.org

Important Dates

Jan. 28 MAP Testing - Math
Feb. 1,2,3 Parent-Teacher Conferences
Feb. 2 "We The People" Theatre Field Trip to Dominican
Feb. 4 BRAVO Field Trip
Feb. 21 No School - President's Day

Dear Families,

We greatly enjoyed our Guest Reader last Friday, Senator Don Harmon. He read a Greek myth and took questions at the end. As always, he took as many questions from the students as time allowed and was such a positive role model for our students. The students came up with very thoughtful questions to ask the senator and gave him their undivided attention. They spoke very eloquently and represented Holmes School well.

Last week, students took the MAP assessment in reading and did very well! They gave their best effort on the test and should be proud of themselves. This week, students will take the MAP assessment in math on Friday, January 28th. If you know your child will not be in school on Friday, please contact your child's homeroom teacher so we can make alternate arrangements for your child to take the test. Students will not be allowed to take the test after Friday the 28th. Thank you for your help with this.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held next week. If you have not already done so, please submit the form, or email your child's homeroom teacher with your top 3 preferences. We will do our best to give you your first choice. If you have already contacted us regarding your conference, please check the Spring Conference Schedule posted on our wiki to verify your conference time.

SPECIALS

Physical Education

We will be having our **7th Annual Holmes Parents Vs. Holmes Staff fundraiser basketball game**. The game will take place on **March 19, 2011** at Gwendolyn Brooks Middle School. It will start at 7pm. Admissions is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children and \$10 for a family of 3 or more.

Spanish

Students can read *El Cuerpo Malo de Simón* to someone for 15 extra points. You can find the story on the Spanish blog- <http://www.mpoleski.blogspot.com/>

Art

"Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time" -Thomas Merton
Find out what's happening in the Art room every week by visiting Mr. Kristofer's new blog. Go to www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com or go to www.op97.org/holmes where the blog is featured under the "spotlight" section.



Reading/Literature

Last week students in 5P and 5Y began reading *The Breadwinner* by Deborah Ellis, while students in 5K and 5M began reading *Under the Blood Red Sun* by Graham Salisbury. We began to look at the cultures and geographical locations that are woven into the books. This week we will discuss the types of conflict in literature as well as practice using the strategy of visualizing to help us remember what we read more clearly.

Math

This week we will move from 2-dimensional figures (perimeter and area) to 3-dimensional figures (volume and nets). By the end of the week, we will have completed our unit on geometry and measurement. Our unit test will be next Tuesday, February 1. We will review in class on Monday. This Friday, students will take the math MAP test during math class. (Due to scheduling conflicts, 5Y students will take the test on Wednesday morning.) Please make sure that your student is well-rested the night before the test. Also, if you know that your child will be absent on Friday, please let Ms. Manuel know as soon as possible so that we may reschedule your child's test for earlier in the week. Because Friday is the last day for MAP testing, students who are absent on Friday will not have an opportunity to make up the test later.

Science

This week we will continue to learn about the skeletal system. There will be a quiz on Friday that covers the functions of the skeletal system and the names of the different bones in the human skeleton. To prepare for the quiz, the students should review the handouts they received in class.

Social Studies

This week we will focus on how the U.S. Constitution came to exist by looking at the tensions and differences of opinion that existed among early American states and citizens. Students will learn about the Articles of Confederation, why that first "constitution" didn't work, and how compromise led to the Constitution. On Friday, we will perform the poem *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere* in class with the expectation that all parts are memorized.

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